

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Federal and state mandates require <u>all</u> students to have access to and make academic

progress in the general curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Significant attention and resources have been allocated in Louisiana to address

accessibility issues through the creation of various statewide initiatives, including but not limited to the Universal Design for Learning and Assistive Technology, which are designed to support educators in addressing students with a variety of learning styles,

differences, and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Advances in curriculum resources and Internet tools that promise greater opportunities to

students can become barriers to learning if the resources and tools are not accessible to all

learners; and

WHEREAS, Universal access to the curriculum requires the involvement of all stakeholders, including

policymakers, educational leaders, teachers, parents, curriculum publishers, etc; and

WHEREAS, All students can be active learners in Louisiana's curriculum without any barriers; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of Louisiana join with the administrators of all school systems and teachers

to encourage the state of Louisiana to increase the awareness of and funding for accessibility for all learners, which include curriculum resources, Internet tools, and

governing policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim

the week of September 11-15, 2006 as

LOUISIANA ACCESSIBILITY AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and encourage all school districts to identify and implement strategies that draw attention to the importance of all students having access to and making academic progress in the general curriculum.

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